



**Livestock and Seed Program  
Audit, Review, and Compliance Branch  
Quality System Audit Report**

**AUDIT INFORMATION**

<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Pennsylvania Certified Organic
<b>Est. Number:</b>	N/A
<b>Physical Address:</b>	406 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Centre Hall, PA 16828
<b>Mailing Address:</b>	406 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, Centre Hall, PA 16828
<b>Contact &amp; Title:</b>	Mike Byers, Administrative Director
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	<a href="mailto:mikeb@paorganic.org">mikeb@paorganic.org</a>
<b>Phone Number:</b>	(814) 364-1344
<b>Auditor(s):</b>	Martin Friesenhahn, Lead Auditor; Dave Hildreth, Auditor
<b>Program:</b>	USDA National Organic Program (NOP)
<b>Audit Date(s):</b>	February 8 - June 28, 2007
<b>Audit Identifier:</b>	NP7039BBA
<b>Action Required:</b>	Yes
<b>Audit Type:</b>	Surveillance - Accreditation Renewal Audit
<b>Audit Objective:</b>	To verify continuing compliance to the audit criteria.
<b>Audit Criteria:</b>	7 CFR Part 205 National Organic Program, Final Rule, dated December 21, 2000; Updated September 11, 2006;
<b>Audit Scope:</b>	The PCO quality manual dated April 27, 2007, including personnel, processes, procedures, facilities, and related records.
<b>Location(s) Audited:</b>	PCO Office in Centre Hall, PA; Daniel Stoltzfus Farm in Centre Hall, PA; Roundtop Farms in Port Matilda, PA; and NS Troutman and Sons in Freeburg, PA.

The 5 Year Accreditation Audit process started on February 8, 2007 with a review of the documents submitted by Pennsylvania Certified Organic (PCO) and concluded with the on-site surveillance audit which was conducted on June 26 – 28, 2007.

PCO is a non-profit organization accredited as a certifying agent on April 29, 2002 to the National Organic Program (NOP) for crops, wild crops, livestock, and handling operations. The PCO Certification Report as of June 15, 2007 listed 394 certified clients with 326 crop, 216 livestock, 10 wild crop, and 75 handling operations certified to the NOP Standards. The majority of clients are certified in the State of Pennsylvania with some clients in NY, MD, AR, DE, and FL.

PCO is currently only applying the NOP Standards and is recognized by the Conseil des Appellations Agroalimentaires du Quebec (CAAQ) and the JAS MAFF Agreement. An ISO Guide 65 surveillance audit was conducted along with the NOP on-site re-accreditation audit.



**Livestock and Seed Program  
Audit, Review, and Compliance Branch  
Quality System Audit Report**

The application and files for initial certification are primarily reviewed by the Assistant Certification Director. The annual updates are reviewed by Certification Specialists. The inspections are conducted by contract inspectors which are assigned by the Inspection Coordinator. The Certification Specialists review the files after the inspections with the final review and decision for certification of clients made by the Certification Director.

The audit included observations of three renewal inspections and one demonstration inspection by PCO. The inspection for the first producer and livestock operation included organic hay, pasture, berries, and dairy production. The second producer inspection was certified for hay, pumpkins, garlic, and potatoes and included a demonstration inspection of the wild crop operation of maple syrup and processing. The processing facility was certified for organic meat slaughter and processing.

**FINDINGS**

Observations made, interviews conducted, and procedures and records reviewed verified that PCO is currently operating in compliance to the audit criteria except as noted in the non-compliance below. One non-compliance was identified during the audit.

**NP7039BBA.NC1** -- NOP §205.404(b)(2) Granting certification and NOP§205.406(d) Continuation of certification requires the certifying agent must issue a certificate of organic operation which specifies the effective date of certification; and if the certifying agent determines that any of the information specified on the certificate of organic operation has changed, the certifying agent must issue an updated certificate of organic operation pursuant to §205.404(b). *Upon updating the certificate, the effective date was changed to the revision date. Therefore the effective date listed on the PCO certificates were not when the client was first certified to the NOP (as required by the NOP) but when the certificate was updated.*